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[Inclosure.]

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *November 23, 1900.*

To agents of steamship companies trading to ports of the United States and their Territories:

I beg to notify you that I have this day received from the Bureau of the U. S. Marine-Hospital Service the following instructions:

"TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE SURGEON-GENERAL, MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Washington, D. C., October 23, 1900.

* * * * * * *

The Bureau deems it advisable to renew the practice of disinfection of * * * steerage passengers at Yokohama for the reasons stated, namely, a possibility of the reinfection of apartments and baggage already disinfected, and also that such disinfection will save considerable time to incoming steamers.

You are, therefore, directed to renew this disinfection upon receipt of this letter.

Respectfully, "WALTER WYMAN,
Surgeon-General, U. S. M. H. S."

In accordance with the foregoing it is then necessary that the arrangement for bathing and disinfecting steerage passengers and their effects, in force during the first half of this year, or some closely similar one, be immediately put into operation, in form satisfactory to the sanitary inspector.

I shall be compelled to refuse bills of health to any ship carrying steerage passengers from here who have not been subjected to bathing and disinfection. This applies to passengers for Hawaii, the Philippines, and Guam, as well as to those for ports in the United States proper, and also to passengers embarking for points not in the United States territory, upon vessels destined for United States ports.

Respectfully, STUART ELDRIDGE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., Sanitary Inspector, Yokohama.

A death from plague at Osaka.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *November 30, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that since dispatching my report of 28th instant I have received news of the death by plague, at Osaka, of 1 more victim on the evening of November 27.

The central board of health at Tokyo is stated to be about to recommend methods of greater stringency in combating the epidemic.

Respectfully, STUART ELDRIDGE,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

NORWAY.

Quarantine established against Kobe, Japan, and other places, and removed against Glasgow and other places.

CHRISTIANIA, *December 3, 1900.*

SIR: Inclosed I have the honor to send duplicate copies of a quarantine proclamation issued by the royal Norwegian Government's justice and police department on November 29, 1900.

I also send translation.

Respectfully, HENRY BORDEWICH,
Consul-Genera .

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure—Translation.]

Proclamation from the royal Norwegian Governments, department of justice, and police.

DECEMBER 3, 1900.

A royal proclamation was made to-day as follows:

"It is hereby proclaimed that, in accordance with paragraph 2 in law of July 12, 1848, relating to quarantine, the city of Kobe, in Japan, shall, until further notice, be considered infected with the oriental plague, and the quarantine regulations laid down in said law and in circular of October 13, this year, as regard plague, etc., are to take effect at once.

"At the same time it is brought to public notice that the city of Glasgow, the city of Smyrna, in Asia, New Caledonia, and the city of Sydney, in Australia, and the ports in Paraguay, which, by proclamation of March 10, April 18, July 17, and September 1, this year, were declared infected with the plague, shall not any longer be considered as infected with the plague.

"With which all concerned respectfully have to comply.

"Which is hereby brought to public notice, while it must be remembered that, according to prior proclamations of February 1, 1897, June 27, and August 22, 1899, and March 10, April 18, May 23, and July 17, 1900, Arabia, Persia, India, China, Manila, Formosa, the city of Osaka, in Japan; the ports in Egypt, Mauritius, the city of Rio Janeiro, in Brazil; the Sandwich Islands, and the city of Melbourne, in Australia, shall until further notice be considered infected with the oriental plague."

A number of copies of this proclamation are inclosed.

CHRISTIANIA, *November 29, 1900.*

A. QVAM.
GEORG JOHANNESEN.

PORTO RICO.

Report from Ponce—Summary of work during November, 1900.

PONCE, P. R., *December 10, 1900.*

SIR: Through chief quarantine officer of Porto Rico, I have the honor to transmit herewith the regular quarantine and abstract of bills of health reports for the week ended December 8, 1900. Together with the monthly summary of work of the station and the report of mortality of Ponce for November, 1900. Five vessels were inspected and passed and 6 bills of health were issued during the week. The mortality report shows 100 less deaths than the previous month, and at this rate it will soon drop to normal. The principal causes of the decrease are the exhaustion of much of the material, the return to the interior for the coffee harvest of many people who had gathered in the city, and the work of the several charity organizations which have relieved a great deal of suffering.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Summary of transactions of service during the month of November, 1900.

PONCE, P. R., *December 10, 1900.*

Total number of deaths reported during November, 1900 (*a*)	270
Total number of deaths reported during November, 1899 (*a*)	287
Total number of births reported during November, 1900 (*a*)	115
Total number of births reported during November, 1899 (*a*)	97
Total number of vessels inspected during November, 1900	20
Total number of vessels inspected during November, 1899	21
Number of bills of health issued during November, 1900	19
Number of bills of health issued during November, 1899	21
Number of vessels in quarantine during November, 1900	4

a These figures are for the city proper, the playa, and surrounding district of Ponce.